

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

§ 37.5

demonstration should address the following specific factors to the extent that the factor is not self-evident:

(A) A high level of cash-market liquidity;

(B) Cash-market bid-ask spreads that are narrow relative to traded values;

(C) Relatively frequent cash market transactions involving participants that represent major segments of the industry;

(D) The absence of material impediments to participation in the cash market by commercial entities;

(E) Transfer of ownership of the cash commodity that is easily and readily accomplished at minimal cost;

(F) A pattern of cash market pricing that exhibits continuity and the absence of frequent, sharp price changes such that a person cannot readily move materially the price of the product in normal cash market channels;

(G) A history of actual trading experience that the contract or product's terms and conditions provide for a deliverable supply, or a reliable and acceptable cash-settlement procedure, that is adequate to minimize the threat of market abuses such as price manipulation and distortions, congestion, and defaults; and

(H) Procedures to effectively oversee the market, including a large trader reporting system, as well as a history of active surveillance to prevent or mitigate market problems.

(b) *Trading facilities limited to eligible commercial entities.* Any commodity, other than the agricultural commodities enumerated in section 1a(4) of the Act, is eligible under section 5a(b)(2)(F) of the Act to be traded on a derivatives transaction execution facility that limits participants on the facility to eligible commercial entities as defined by § 37.1(b) trading for their own account. *Provided, however,* an agricultural commodity enumerated in section 1a(4) of the Act may be so approved by the Commission under the procedures of paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) *Enumerated agricultural commodities.* [Reserved]

§ 37.4 Election to trade excluded and exempt commodities.

A board of trade that is or elects to become a registered derivatives transaction execution facility may, pursuant to section 5a(g) of the Act, trade agreements, contracts, or transactions that are excluded or exempt from the Act pursuant to sections 2(c), 2(d), 2(g), or 2(h).

§ 37.5 Procedures for registration.

(a) *Notification by contract markets.* To operate as a registered derivatives transaction execution facility pursuant to section 5a of the Act, a board of trade, facility or entity that is designated as a contract market, must:

(1) Comply with the core principles for operation under section 5a(d) of the Act and the provisions of this part 37; and

(2) Notify the Commission of its intent to so operate by filing with the Secretary of the Commission at its Washington, DC headquarters a copy of the facility's rules (which may be trading protocols) or a list of the designated contract market's rules that apply to operation of the derivatives transaction execution facility, and a certification by the contract market that it meets:

(i) The requirements for trading of section 5a(b) of the Act; and

(ii) The criteria for registration under section 5a(c) of the Act.

(b) *Registration by application.* A board of trade, facility or entity shall be deemed to be registered as a derivatives transaction execution facility thirty days after receipt by the Commission of an application for registration as a derivatives transaction execution facility unless notified otherwise during that period, or, as determined by Commission order, registered upon conditions, if:

(1) The application demonstrates that the applicant satisfies the requirements for trading and the criteria for registration of sections 5a(b) and 5a(c) of the Act, respectively;

(2) The submission is labeled "Application for DTF Registration";

(3) The submission includes:

(i) The derivatives transaction execution facility's rules, which may be trading protocols;

(ii) Any agreements entered into or to be entered into between or among the facility, its operator or its participants, technical manuals and other guides or instructions for users of such facility, descriptions of any system test procedures, tests conducted or test results, and descriptions of the trading mechanism or algorithm used or to be used by such facility, to the extent such documentation was otherwise prepared; and

(iii) To the extent that compliance with the requirements for trading or the criteria for recognition is not self-evident, a brief explanation of how the rules or trading protocols satisfy each of the conditions for registration;

(4) The applicant does not amend or supplement the application for recognition, except as requested by the Commission or for correction of typographical errors, renumbering or other nonsubstantive revisions, during that period;

(5) The applicant identifies with particularity information in the application that will be subject to a request for confidential treatment and supports that request for confidential treatment with reasonable justification; and

(6) The applicant has not instructed the Commission in writing at the time of submission of the application or during the review period to review the application pursuant to the time provisions of and procedures under section 6 of the Act.

(c) *Guidance for applicants.* Appendix A to this part provides guidance to applicants for registration as a derivatives transaction execution facility on how the conditions for registration in sections 5a(b) and 5a(c) of the Act could be satisfied.

(d) *Termination of fast track review.* During the thirty-day period for review pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, the Commission shall notify the applicant seeking registration that the Commission is terminating review under this section and will review the proposal under the time period and procedures of section 6 of the Act, if it appears that the application's form or

substance fails to meet the requirements of this part. This termination notification will state the nature of the issues raised and the specific condition of registration that the applicant would violate, appears to violate, or the violation of which cannot be ascertained from the application. Within ten days of receipt of this termination notification, the applicant seeking registration may request that the Commission render a decision whether to register the derivatives transaction execution facility or to institute a proceeding to deny the proposed application under procedures specified in section 6 of the Act by notifying the Commission that the applicant seeking registration views its submission as complete and final as submitted.

(e) *Request for withdrawal of application for registration or withdrawal of registration.* An applicant to be registered, or a registered derivatives transaction execution facility may withdraw its application or its registration by filing with the Commission at its Washington, DC, headquarters such a request. Withdrawal from registration shall not affect any action taken or to be taken by the Commission based upon actions, activities or events occurring during the time that the application for registration was pending with, or that the facility was registered by, the Commission.

(f) *Delegation of authority.* (1) The Commission hereby delegates, until it orders otherwise, to the Director of the Division of Trading and Markets and separately to the Director of Economic Analysis or such other employee or employees as the Directors may designate from time to time, with the concurrence of the General Counsel or the General Counsel's delegatee, authority to exercise the functions provided under paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) The directors may submit to the Commission for its consideration any matter that has been delegated in this paragraph.

(3) Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the Commission, at its election, from exercising the authority delegated in paragraph (f)(1) of this section.